

Message Text

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ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 /031 W

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P R 101749Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4946

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

S E C R E T BONN 14365

EXDIS

E.O.1652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GRTU, CY, US

SUBJECT: REPORT OF THE CHANCELLOR'S DISCUSSION WITH
GREEK FOREIGN MINISTER MAVROS ON SEPTEMBER
10.

REF: PARIS 21251

1. DURING THE COURSE OF MY CONVERSATION WITH THE
CHANCELLOR THIS AFTERNOON (OTHER TOPICS BEING REPORTED
SEPARATELY), HE SUMMARIZED HIS TALK WITH GREEK FOREIGN
MINISTER MAVROS EARLIER IN THE DAY. SCHMIDT SAID HE
HAD BEEN IMPRESSED BY THE STRONG EMPHASIS PLACED
BY MAVROS ON THE DEPTH OF GREEK ANTI-AMERICANISM WHICH
WAS DESCRIBED AS THE OVERRIDING FACTOR IN CURRENT GREEK
ATTITUDES. SCHMIDT ADDED THAT HE, AS HAD FOREIGN
MINISTER GENSCHER IN HIS MEETINGS WITH MAVROS, HAD
ARGUED THAT IT WAS IN THE GREEK GOVERNMENT'S INTEREST
TO AVOID DOING ANYTHING TO FAN SUCH ANTI-AMERICANISM,
BUT INSTEAD IT SHOULD TAKE SUCH MEASURES AS WERE POSSI-

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BLE TO REDUCE IT.

2. SCHMIDT WENT ON TO SAY THAT HE HAD EMPHASIZED TO MAVROS THE IMPORTANCE OF GREECE TO WESTERN DEFENSE AND THAT, IF THE GREEKS WERE SINCERE IN CLAIMING THAT THEIR POLICY WAS TO REMAIN TIED TO THE WEST, THEY SHOULD NOT TAKE STEPS WHICH COULD ONLY WEAKEN NATO. NOR WOULD THE GERMANS SUPPORT ANY GREEK ATTEMPT TO BALANCE OUT A DIMINISHED ROLE IN NATO BY PLAYING A GREATER ROLE IN THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY.

3. THE CHANCELLOR SAID THAT MAVROS WAS EXCITABLE AND FREQUENTLY INCONSISTENT DURING THEIR CONVERSATION ON SUCH SUBJECTS AS GREEK RELATIONS WITH THE SOVIET UNION AND THE ROLE OF THE UNITED NATIONS. MAVROS EXPRESSED GRAVE FEAR OF ALLEGED SINISTER TURKISH DESIGNS ON GREEK TERRITORY AS WELL AS IN THE AEGEAN. AT THE SAME TIME, HE SPOKE UP STRONGLY FOR MAKARIOS SAYING THAT HE WAS THE ONLY PERSON WHOM THE GREEK CYPRIOTS WOULD REALLY SUPPORT.

4. MAVROS DID SAY, IN RESPONSE TO SCHMIDT'S DEFENSE OF THE AMERICAN ROLE-THAT IF THE U.S. WAS COUNSELING MODERATION IN ANKARA, IT WAS ADVISABLE THAT THIS ACTIVITY BE DEMONSTRATED IN SUCH A WAY AS TO COME TO THE ATTENTION OF THE GREEK PEOPLE. THE CHANCELLOR TOLD HIM THAT HE WOULD BE SEEING THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR LATER IN THE DAY AND WOULD CONVEY THIS POINT TO HIM.

5. COMMENT: THERE IS EVERY INDICATION THAT BOTH THE CHANCELLOR AND FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER SAID THE RIGHT THINGS TO THEIR GREEK VISITOR BUT GIVEN MAVROS' EMOTIONAL STATE, THEY WERE NOT SURE HOW MUCH OF AN IMPRESSION THEY MIGHT HAVE MADE. WE WILL BE REPORTING ADDITIONAL DETAILS REGARDING THE CONVERSATIONS HERE AS OBTAINED FROM OTHER SOURCES.
HILLENBRAND

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, ANTIAMERICAN FEELING, MEETINGS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BONN14365
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740251-1034
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740961/aaaabzlh.tel
Line Count: 97
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: PARIS 21251
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 APR 2002 by collinp0>; APPROVED <02 JUL 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REPORT OF THE CHANCELLOR'S DISCUSSION WITH GREEK FOREIGN MINISTER MAVROS ON SEPTEMBER
TAGS: PFOR, GR, CY, US, TU, (MARVOS), (SCHMIDT)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005